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PreserVAtion *in* progress

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Photo courtesy of Martin Gallivan

Archaeology students from the College of William and Mary uncover structural post holes in a test pit at the Werowocomoco site.

Werowocomoco excavations end on high note

By Sean P. Smith

The first season of archaeological excavations at Werowocomoco successfully ended the last week of June, with over 55 5 ft. x 5 ft. test units being completed. The excavations at the Purtan Bay site in Gloucester County, jointly sponsored by the College of William and Mary and the Department of Historic Resources, clearly document that the site contains well-preserved archaeological deposits, including both prehistoric and historic features. Werowocomoco was the principal residence of Powhatan in 1607 and served as the capitol of

the chiefdom over which he ruled.

E. Randolph Turner, director of the Portsmouth Regional Preservation Office and one of the lead archaeologists on the project, along with other members of the Werowocomoco Research Group, hosted a variety of people with vested interest in the excavations, including representatives of the Pamunkey, Mattaponi, and Chickahominy Indians, Del. Harvey Morgan (Gloucester County), the APVA Jamestown Rediscovery archaeological field school, and the Colonial Williamsburg archaeological field school.

Werowocomoco received considerable media attention, both with the initial announcement in March and throughout the summer excavations. Newspaper coverage included extensive local coverage in the

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State-owned site listings achieve goal

By Sean P. Smith

The Department of Historic Resources (DHR) has added 10 new and expanded properties to the Virginia Landmarks Register since last September. With full support from Governor Mark R. Warner and his cabinet, DHR is pursuing an initiative to help state agencies improve their stewardship of state-owned properties. With these registrations, DHR has met its first year's goal.

Placing these historic resources on the landmarks register is an important cornerstone of good stewardship. By recognizing the significance of these properties and utilizing the technical assistance and other programs and services that DHR offers, stewards of historic state properties are making historic preservation an integral part of their decision making process.

The new register listings are: Southwest Virginia Museum Historical State Park, Wise County; George Washington Grist Mill, Fairfax County; Birdwood, Albemarle County; Montebello and Sunnyside, both in the City of Charlottesville; Virginia Department of Highways Building, Charlotte Williams Memorial Hospital, and the George Washington Equestrian Statue, all in the City of Richmond; Wade Archaeological Site, Charlotte County; and Nanzattico (boundary increase), King George County.

"In these lean economic times, perhaps most especially in lean times, the Commonwealth can and should support preservation by being a careful steward of publicly-owned resources," said Kathleen S. Kilpatrick, director of the Department of Historic

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DHR Roundup

DHR, VHS pair for exhibition

DHR will team with the Virginia Historical Society to present an exhibition commemorating the 50th anniversary of *Brown v. Board of Education*, the landmark case that forced the desegregation of Virginia public schools.

"To Secure These Rights: The Civil Rights Movement in Virginia," will focus on school desegregation, access to public accommodations, and voter education and registration. Department staff will be providing direction and content for the school desegregation component, part of the agency's diversity initiative to highlight and increase registration and interpretation of minority-themed historic resources in the state.

The exhibition is set to open Feb. 7, 2004.

John Smith Trail setting course

The department, in cooperation with the Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Maryland Historical Trust, and the National Park Service's Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network, has embarked on preliminary research as the first step in the creation of a Captain John Smith Water Trail. Envisioned as part of the 400th anniversary celebrations of the founding of Jamestown, the water trail will retrace the routes of John Smith's major Chesapeake Bay explorations between

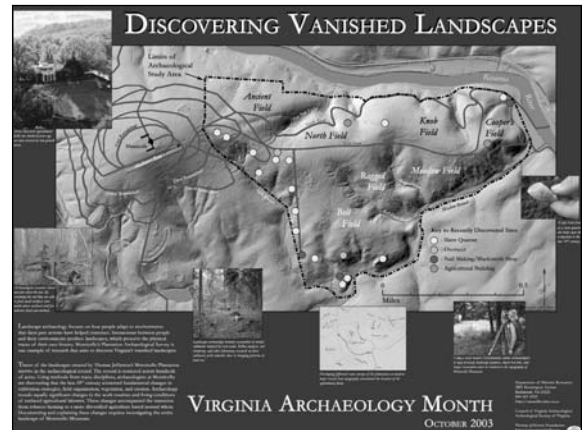
1607 and 1609, document the people and resources Smith encountered, and mark the places he is known to have seen or visited. Exploratory research in the coming year is also expected to help in the development of site-specific interpretive products for the Bay network's 115 designated Gateway sites.

PAV Conference set for Norfolk

DHR is a major sponsor of the Preservation Alliance of Virginia's 18th annual Preservation Conference, to be held Sept. 21-23, 2003, at the Clarion Hotel James Madison, Norfolk. This year's conference theme is "Making the Case: Preservation Solutions for Virginia's Future!"

Conference highlights include downtown tours of Norfolk and Suffolk; training sessions for CLGs, architectural review boards, and realtors; receptions at Norfolk Naval Station and Nauticus; and workshops on advocacy, affordable housing, transportation enhancements and landscapes. Secretary of Natural Resources W. Tayloe Murphy, Jr., will moderate a forum for leading General Assembly members and conferees on the 2004 Virginia legislative agenda. James Lighthizer, president of the Civil War Preservation Trust, and the Hon. Gerald L. Baliles, will give keynote speeches.

Register online at



Virginia Archaeology Month: Oct. 1-21, 2003; "Discovering Vanished Landscapes" features lectures, tours, and activities at libraries, colleges, and historic sites across the state. For details and to order a poster, call (804) 367-2323, ext. 134.

www.vapreservation.org, or call the PAV at (804) 421-9800.

Localities receive CLG grants

Governor Mark R. Warner recently announced six grant awards to Virginia localities for projects to identify and recognize historic resources and to plan for their continued use. The awards, totaling \$62,950, were made to Arlington and Hanover Counties, and the cities of Fairfax, Petersburg, and Suffolk.

The grants are awarded competitively under the Certified Local Government (CLG) Program administered by DHR, in cooperation with the National Park Service. The CLG program provides partnership opportunities for localities with a strong commitment to historic preservation. There are 25 CLGs in Virginia.

Fort Christanna yields discoveries

Capital Region archaeologist Chris

Stevenson completed a third successful summer field school at the continuing Earthwatch-DHR-sponsored excavations at Fort Christanna in Brunswick County.

With the assistance of three teams of Earthwatch volunteers, test units were completed along the southern margin of the fort outside the palisade line. Discoveries included a daub brick, non-local flint, slag, and copper items.

Briefly:

Ground was broken in the spring on the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) Janelia Farm Research Campus in Loudoun County. The Tax Credit and Easement program staff worked with HHMI to design a biomedical complex that is environmentally sensitive and respects the historic site.

The heart of the 281-acre Potomac River site is the landmark Janelia Farm, listed on both the Virginia Landmarks Register and National Register of Historic Places. DHR has held an historic easement on the property since 1986.

— Compiled by
Sean P. Smith

Director's Notes

Kathleen S. Kilpatrick

Among the department's initiatives, education and outreach have experienced tremendous growth in the past few years. The agency's mission—to encourage and support the preservation of Virginia's historic resources—depends on education and outreach to raise citizens' awareness of preservation's many tools, services, and benefits.

You will see exciting development of educational programming that deepens our understanding of the history all around us and enhances the health and vitality of the places where we live, work, and play. For this, we look to partnerships that are enabling the agency to achieve remarkable results for students, families, teachers, and visitors.

As a member of the Chesapeake Bay Gateway Networking Group, the department is taking the lead in developing a scope of work and coordinating Native American involvement in the creation of the Captain John Smith Water Trail. The project takes a unique approach linking natural and cultural resources throughout the bay and integrating these resources to interpret the ecology of the bay and further tourism, education, and conservation.

In two other conservation and environmental efforts, we have teamed with the Coastal Zone Management Program of the Department of Environmental Quality to present the "Focus on Coastal Towns" series in *CZM magazine* and on our

Web sites, and with all natural resources state agencies, we are partnering in "Stewardship Virginia," Sept. 21-Oct. 31, 2003.

Through collaborations with the Museums on the Boulevard (MOB), a consortium of seven Richmond cultural institutions, and the Virginia Historical Society, the department is acquainting students, teachers, and visitors with the heritage of Virginia's Native Americans and African Americans. These projects include "Lewis & Clark: Corridor of Discovery" workshops; the Teachers Guide and Activity Book that complements the department's "Solving History's Mysteries: The History Discovery Lab" exhibition; and the upcoming "The Civil Rights Movement in Virginia" exhibition.

We are particularly excited about the worldwide coverage of the archaeological excavations at Werowocomoco in Gloucester County, which has made the Werowocomoco Research Group one of the most visible of the department's partnerships. This summer's excavations of the 17th-century site confirmed historical accounts that the location is the principal village of Powhatan, who ruled a chiefdom encompassing most of coastal Virginia. Werowocomoco represents the first project of such international significance in which collaboration with Virginia Indians has been integral from the start.

Through these partnerships and others to come, the department will continue to move ahead with educational and outreach programs that encourage and support the preservation of Virginia's historic resources and contribute greatly to the best use of our cultural and natural resources. Stay tuned for more.

Web hotspots

Click on the latest DHR news at www.dhr.state.va.us, "What's New?"

Teacher's guide: Now available online and in hardcopy—the Teacher Guide and Activity Book to Virginia's only permanent exhibition on historic preservation: *Solving History's Mysteries: The History Discovery Lab*. Both the exhibition and the guide use historic architecture and archaeology to focus on the process of discovery—how we learn. Using the classroom exercises, coupled with the hands-on activities in the exhibition, teachers can show students how to "read" the history all around them. See "What's New?" to download the

guide, or call (804) 367-2323, ext. 134 to order a copy.

Also available online are lesson plans using archaeology as a discipline from which to teach science, mathematics, history and social science, developed by teachers and interns who attended the 1999 Summer Teacher's Institute sponsored by the department and the Virginia Historical Society. The lesson plans are tied to appropriate Standards of Learning.

Focus on Coastal Towns: This feature highlights a historic coastal town or village that is preserving and conserving its cultural and environmental resources. We continue with the second in the series, profiling the town

of Gloucester, tucked between the York River and the Chesapeake Bay. Look for expanded versions on our Web site, and for shorter features in *Coastal Zone Management* magazine. Also see the Coastal Zone Management Program's Web site at www.deq.state.va.us/coastal/about.htm

Extra! Extra! Real all about it: Check out all the latest headlines in preservation news from your desktop! The department's archives clippings feature, updated on a weekly basis, gives anyone easy access to the latest newspaper articles reporting historic preservation issues and developments throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Calendar

Stewardship Virginia, statewide: Sept. 21-Oct. 31, 2003; Virginia Archaeology Month is DHR's lead event among this series of volunteer and educational projects promoting conservation and preservation. For more details, to www.dhr.state.va.us, "What's New?" for details.

Statewide Preservation Conference, Norfolk: Sept. 21-23, 2003; Annual Virginia preservation conference, featuring a legislative forum and sessions for realtors and others on the state and federal tax credits, tax abatement issues, and catalytic projects. Sponsored by the Preservation Alliance of Virginia, the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Virginia Department of Forestry, City of Norfolk, and County of Suffolk. Details: (804) 421-9800. Register online at www.vapreservation.org

Lewis & Clark: Corridor of Discovery Teacher's Workshop, Richmond: Sept. 20 and Oct. 18, 2003; Workshops will examine and interpret the Lewis and Clark Expedition from the varied perspective of history, natural history, science, and art. For teachers of all subjects and all grades. Sponsored by Museums on the Boulevard. Location: Virginia Historical Society, 428 N. Boulevard. Details: (804) 358-4901.

Chesapeake Bay Gateways Networking Conference, Annapolis, Maryland: Nov. 5-7, 2003; Inaugural conference. The Gateways Network is coordinated by the National Park Service in partnership with the Chesapeake Bay Program and the Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network Working Group. The network is a partnership system of over 120 parks, museums, historic communities, and trails. For more details, please go to the network's website at www.baygateways.net

State-owned

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Resources. "Registering these properties held in trust for the people confers the proper recognition they deserve and draws the necessary attention to the sites."

The Virginia Landmarks Register is designed to increase awareness of the value of historic resources in the Commonwealth. Listing on the Virginia register (as with the National Register of Historic Places) places no restrictions on the owner's use of the property. Listing is honorific.

For more information on the state-owned properties or the registration of historic properties in Virginia, please go to the DHR website, www.dhr.state.va.us.

State properties listed:

The **Southwest Virginia Museum Historical State Park**, located in Wise County, is a Queen Anne-style stone house completed in 1895 for Rufus A. Ayers, a former attorney general of Virginia and a leading developer of Southwest Virginia during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. It was bought in 1929 by C. Bascom Slemp, a long-time Republican congressman from the Ninth District and Calvin Coolidge's private secretary. Slemp's historical and political artifacts became the nucleus of the museum collection. The **George Washington Grist Mill** is a Colonial Revival-style stone building that was reconstructed by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Development in

1932-1933. It was rebuilt on the foundations of George Washington's 1770-1771 gristmill using archaeological and documentary evidence.

Birdwood was built as the plantation home of William Garth, one of the most successful planters of antebellum Albemarle County. The house shares elements with buildings at the University of Virginia and other early 19th-century houses in the area built by Thomas Jefferson's builders. **Montebello** was the home of John M. Perry, the most prominent of all builders who worked with Thomas Jefferson on Monticello and Poplar Forest, as well as many elements of UVA. Montebello exhibits Jeffersonian building practices, proportions, and materials in their most basic forms. Located at the edge of Charlottesville, **Sunnyside** began as a two-room log structure, later enlarged and embellished in the Gothic Revival-style in the 1850s. Its irregular silhouette and lighthearted Gothic detailing are fine examples of the style.

Richmond's **Virginia Department of Highways Building** is a significant expression of the "Stripped Classicism" style that was in favor for government buildings in the 1930s and 1940s, whereas the **Charlotte Williams Memorial Hospital** is a sign of Richmond's demand for a first-class medical facility at the end of the 19th century. An integral part of Capitol Square, the **George Washington Equestrian Statue** is the oldest standing equestrian statue in the United States, begun in 1850.

The **Wade Archaeological Site**, Charlotte County, documents the Saponi Indians of the Late Woodland Period. The site contains artifacts that show a mastery of art and technology unique to the region. **Nanzatico** in King George County has been registered since 1972. The expansion of the district now includes archaeological sites outside the original area of listing. This area has well-preserved deposits that can yield information on Native American life during the Late Woodland period (900-1607 A.D.).

Powhatan

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Richmond Times-Dispatch, the *Daily Press*, and the *Virginian-Pilot*, as well as international coverage through the Associated Press, *The New York Times*, *Baltimore Sun*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Los Angeles Times*, and *Times of London*. The project also was featured on the "CBS Evening News" and Discovery Channel Canada.

An integral part of the project's success from its beginning has been assistance and counsel of Werowocomoco's Virginia Indian Advisory Board.

Plans call for excavations at the site to resume next May.

The Werowocomoco excavations and the project's future will be featured in DHR's forthcoming 2003 edition of *Notes on Virginia*.

Virginia Department of Historic Resources

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From our clients:



"County residents so valued taking an inventory of our historic resources that one individual donated \$15,000. The cost share program is helping us identify significant assets for tourism and economic development."

— John W. McCarthy,
Rappahannock County
administrator

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Get involved! Help support historic preservation

Legislation passed by the General Assembly created the Virginia Historic Resources Fund as a means to support a variety of key historic preservation efforts including heritage education, landmark preservation, threatened sites intervention, and research. The

fund is administered by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, and all donations are fully tax deductible. Make checks payable to the Virginia Department of Historic Resources/"Historic Resources Fund." Details: www.dhr.state.va.us/homepage_features/how_involved.htm